

TOPIC Military Information from Chemnitz

25X1A

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. No changes in the occupation of the eastern barracks installation in Chemnitz-Ebersdorf (N 51/K 66) were observed until 22 August 1951. A unit of 120 troops, wearing red-bordered black epaulets, left the installation under the command of 3 officers on 22 August, and included 18 men, who wore tank insignia, and 10 men, who wore motor transport insignia. Another unit was simultaneously engaged in combat practice near the installation. Trucks 25X1C

occupied by student drivers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, left the installation on the same day for practice cross-country driving. Other trucks identified in the billeting area and driven by soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets.

2. The western barracks installation in Chemnitz-Ebersdorf appeared to be only partially occupied on 22 August. Eighty soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets assembled for roll call. A sedan seen in the billeting area was occupied by an officer and a driver, both of whom wore red-bordered black epaulets.

3. The sentries and patrols guarding the barracks installation in Chemnitz-Ebersdorf were increased to six men on 9 August. The two installations were still occupied to capacity by the same units on 23 August. All barracks buildings were fully lighted at nightfall. Vehicular traffic there had somewhat decreased. All vehicles were operated by military personnel. (1)

4. On 23 August, source observed the new military billeting area in Siegmars-Schoenau near Chemnitz. The sentries at the various posts wore different epaulets: the sentry on Gauss Strasse formerly Rathausstrasse, green epaulets; on Adolf Weinhold Strasse, formerly Wiesenstrasse, black-bordered red epaulets; and on Kopernikusstrasse, formerly Leipzigerstrasse, red-bordered black epaulets. The entire residential area was placed completely off limits to the German population. The total number of troops there was estimated at about 1,500, including the last arrivals, who came about 18 August. The eastern section of the residential area appeared to quarter troops with red-bordered black epaulets and black-bordered red epaulets; the northern and northwestern sections, male Russian civilians; and the central sections troops with green epaulets. The occupation

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of the southern section could not be determined. Previously observed trucks with AA guns and track-laying vehicles, which were identified as half-track were parked in the northeastern section of the billeting area.

Armored reconnaissance cars were parked on the grass north of the post office. Handcuffed German prisoners were repeatedly seen being led into the northwestern section of the billeting area by German policemen. Numerous sedans [REDACTED] mostly occupied by high-ranking officers, were seen there. (2)

5. The unit, which moved into the hutment in the woods at the target range, was billeted in six newly constructed low wooden barracks buildings on 23 August. An informant said that these troops no longer went to the Infanterie Kaserne on Leninstrasse to sleep, but had slept in the hutment since the low wooden barracks buildings were erected on 11 August. The troops wore red-bordered black epaulets. No vehicular traffic or regular training activity was noticed. (3)

6. The eastern section of the Infanterie Kaserne on Leninstrasse, Chemnitz, was empty until the evening of 20 August. Source heard tank motors and rumors that the troops had returned during night of 20 August. Source then observed the arrival of about 50 tanks, [REDACTED] and an undetermined number of trucks with troops. As the unit moved along Dresdener Strasse and Leninstrasse, source concluded that it had arrived at Chemnitz by road. The tank unit moved into the eastern section of the barracks installation, and source inferred that it was the unit which had been quartered there prior to the spring of 1951.

7. On 21 August, as on 5 June, the two barracks installations on Leninstrasse were unusually strictly guarded. The usual number of sentries were seen on the front side of the billeting area, and two machine gun emplacements with crews of six men each were seen on each corner of the northern side. (4)

Comments.

- (1) The information indicates no changes regarding the adjoining barracks installations in Obersdorf, which are referred to as eastern and western installation in the present report. The installations are believed to quarter the 19th Gds Mecc Regt of the 8th Gds Mecc Div and personnel of the Wismut Corporation with the driving-school [REDACTED]. The mechanized regiment had left for Koenigsbrueck on 14 April 1951. Its return to the post has not been reported. [REDACTED] The [REDACTED] mentioned in paragraph 1 belong to the unidentified AAA Div, possibly the 6th Gds, of the GDFG. (2) The units which have been quartered in Sieghart-Schoonau since the end of July 1951 have not been identified to date. (3) The allegedly new unit was reported to have arrived on 31 July 1951 with about 800 to 1,000 men and was mentioned also in a previous report in connection with the barracks installations in Leninstrasse. [REDACTED] Only penal camps have been observed to be guarded by machine gun crews to date. It is therefore possible that the unit in the Zeisig Woods, which apparently slept in the barracks installations on Leninstrasse prior to the completion of their quarters, may be a labor battalion assigned to work in uranium mines. (4) The Infanterie Kaserne on Leninstrasse is believed to quarter components of the unidentified AAA Div, possibly the 6th Gds, of the GDFG. It is doubted that components of the 8th Gds Mecc Div or headquarters units of the First Gds Mecc Army should also be quartered there, because no tanks or vehicles of these units have ever been seen there. The tank unit which allegedly moved into the installation on 21 August 1951 and which, according to the present report, had tanks [REDACTED] may have been a component of the 8th Gds Mecc Div.

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